

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 MC-02 INR-07 SP-02 SS-15 H-02

/043 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/BC/B:RPACE:BF

APPROVED BY ARA/BC:RFIMBRES

PM/SAS:GSWEANEY (DRAFT)

ARA/PLC:AWILLIAMS (DRAFT)

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R 240320Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 043909

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, BC

SUBJECT: PRICE AND AVAILABILITY DATA ON M48A3 TANKS

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE PROVIDES ESTIMATED PRICE AND AVAILABILITY DATA ON M48A3 TANK, AS OBTAINED FROM DOD SOURCES. THIS INFORMATION IS NOT REPEAT NOT AUTHORIZED FOR RELEASE TO GOB UNTIL AFTER CONGRESS COMPLETES ACTION ON FY-76 SECURITY ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION. AT PRESENT, OUR BEST GUESS IS THAT SECURITY ASSISTANCE BILL WILL NOT BE PASSED UNTIL LATE MARCH, AND MAY BE DELAYED INTO APRIL. NONETHELESS, WE WISH TO MAKE THIS INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO YOU NOW FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, WELL IN ADVANCE OF DATE WHEN DATA COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO GOB.

2. ESTIMATED PRICE OF M48A3 TANK, INCLUDING COST FOR COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND MACHINE GUNS, WOULD BE \$380,000. THESE TANKS WOULD BE IN CODE A SERVICEABLE CONDITION COMING
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DIRECT FROM REBUILD AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN THIRD QUARTER

OF FY-78. BOTH PRICE AND AVAILABILITY ARE ESTIMATED,
HOWEVER, AND DEFINITIVE DATA WOULD ONLY BE AVAILABLE FROM
DOD AT TIME OF FIRM OFFER. INGERSOLL

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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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